



The Spring Lake Park School District is proud of its students and staff, parents and families, and supportive communities of Blaine, Spring Lake Park, and Fridley.

For vision for the future is to be recognized as a World-Class Learning Community of Choice aligned around improving student learning.

Our district purpose reads: "High Expectations, High Achievement For All. No Excuses."

There is much to be proud of and excited about, including the completion of our project to renovate and expand all of our schools, incredible student success, and a vision for the future and roadmap to ensure student achievement and success.

Our list is larger, but here is a variety pack of 50 of the reasons why we are proud—and why we think you should be proud—of the Spring Lake Park School District.

50 REASONS WHY WE'RE PROUD OF OUR STUDENTS, STAFF, PARENTS, COMMUNITY BLAINE • SPRING LAKE PARK • FRIDLEY



95 percent of all Spring Lake Park High School graduates have post-secondary plans to attend two- or four-year colleges and universities or the military.

- 1** In 2010, nearly 95 percent of Spring Lake Park High School graduating seniors had plans in place for two-year or four-year colleges and universities or the military.
- 2** National experts have identified District 16 as a model site for engaging staff in consistent high quality professional learning experiences to improve student learning.
- 3** In 2010, Spring Lake Park High School had one National Merit Scholarship winner, two Finalists, six Commended students, and another recognized in the Black Americans category.
- 4** Opportunities in Emergency Care teams from the high school placed 1st and 2nd in the nation in the International Rescue and Emergency Care Association Competition in 2009, and 1st, 3rd, and 5th in the state in the Minnesota Youth Emergency Care Competition in 2010.
- 5** A recent Lighthouse Program student graduated at age 14, was 5th in his senior class, and received a full college scholarship.

6 7th graders from Westwood Middle School placed 1st in the multi-state region of national Continental Math League competition in 2010.

7 A recent graduate obtained a perfect ACT score; one of only 3 in Minnesota, 33 in the nation.

8 A junior in the district's Lighthouse Program advanced to the semi-finals of the competition to become a member of the 2010 U.S. Physics Olympic Team.

9 Our elementary-level Spanish Immersion Program, now in its second year, is a school-within-a-school at the Westwood Complex.

10 Every teacher is engaged in professional learning and development to better personalize instruction for each student, in each classroom, in each school in the district.

11 Since 2004, the community-based Panther Foundation has given over a quarter of a million dollars to the Spring Lake Park School District through grant awards and funding of special projects.

12 Twenty-six elementary students were tops in the nation with perfect scores in four recent national academic Olympiads.

13 Since 2008, Special Education referrals decreased by more than 50 percent with the implementation of our System of Interventions.

14 All facilities are expanded and completely remodeled. The Minnesota Construction Association awarded its top Award of Excellence to Northpoint Elementary School and Spring Lake Park High School.

15 Nearly two hundred of our teachers have successfully implemented innovative 21st Century technologies in their classrooms over the past three years, supported by their participation in year-long study groups.

16 In 2009-10, Academic Section or Conference honors earned for football, girls tennis, gymnastics, and cross country teams. State appearances for track, wrestling, swimming & diving, and dance. Section or conference championships in volleyball, boys tennis, boys track, softball, and dance.

17 Our Learning Alternatives Community School, a Minnesota Alternative Program of the Year, has implemented project-based learning to address real world problems and issues.

18 Our Early Childhood Program was awarded a \$40,000 Hand-in-Hand grant to improve school readiness, health, and the well-being of students whose first language is not English.

19 The high school's Pantherettes Dance Team was 4th in the state in 2010, third in the state in 2009 and 2008; state champions in 2007, 2006, and 2005.

20 Six of Minnesota's top-ten-scoring high school students in an International Chemistry Olympiad qualifying test were from Spring Lake Park High School.

21 Every staff member –every teacher, cook, principal, secretary, para, custodian— is committed to making positive, lasting connections with our students, and to providing a welcoming environment for parents and the community.



Ninth in the nation! This sixth grade academic team from Westwood Middle School excelled in WordMasters national computer-based language arts competition.

22 David Backes, a 2002 alum, had a game-winning goal on the Silver Medal-winning U.S. team in the XXI Winter Olympic Games. He is a member of the St. Louis Blues NHL hockey team.

23 Spring Lake Park hosted a two-day workshop on Habits of Mind thinking skills with authors who are nationally and internationally recognized as experts, as well as an academy for principals from across the state to develop their leadership skills.

24 Teachers across the district collaborate weekly in Professional Learning Community teams focused on student outcomes, assessments, instruction, and results.

25 Ten Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) students won awards at the service organization's state competition in 2010.

26 Westwood Middle School 6th graders placed 9th in the nation in the 2010 WordMasters, a national language arts competition.

27 All secondary students have a myPanthers account providing access to a district email account and Google Docs.

28 Six students won nine state-level medals at the 2010 SkillsUSA-Minnesota competition showcasing high school and college technical education students.

29 Spring Lake Park High School academic teams had two 1st place awards, a 2nd, and a 3rd in the state Health Occupations of America competition in 2010.

30 All teachers engage in continuous professional learning opportunities focused on differentiation, authentic instruction, and building meaningful relationships.

31 The staff at Westwood Middle School does much to support the importance of a high school diploma and of college readiness, including taking all 8th graders –that's over 300—on a field trip to the University of Minnesota.

32 Three coordinators serve the needs of K-12 students in the well-respected Gifted Services Department.

33 All principals are instructional leaders who are in classrooms each week to support and acknowledge high quality instruction and student learning.

34 The high school boys basketball team placed 4th in the 2009 and 2007 state tournaments.

35 Our high school provides each 9th and 10th grader with a small core group of teachers they work with all year long. This results in teachers getting to know the academic, social, and emotional needs of each student and a more personalized experience in students' transition to high school.



Woodcrest Elementary promotes the "I CARE" values of Integrity, Compassion, Acceptance, Responsibility, and Excellence. Here, students discuss sportsmanship (and display their strength and unity) prior to participating in Elementary Track & Field Day.

36 Katelin Rains, a 2005 alum, earned three consecutive national pole vault records at Minnesota State University-Mankato.

37 First in the state to implement the Practical Assessment Exploration System which increases real life skills in Transition Students.

38 Schools have computer labs and laptop carts; classrooms are equipped with state-of-the-art instructional technology, many with SMART boards.

39 The VOICE," a high school peer education theater group, received an award for promoting mental health awareness in Anoka County.

40 All preschool-12th grade students participate in learning experiences that foster higher-order thinking, substantive conversations, and connections to the world beyond the classroom.

40 Family and student communication include an up-to-date website; E-News providing email for information and alerts; cable television programming of School Board meetings, concerts, and topical information; publications; and more.

41 Troy Merritt , 2004 alum, won the 2009 PGA Tour Qualifying Tournament, preceded by an NCAA-record five tourney wins in a row in college.

42 Responsive Classroom practices at the elementary emphasize social, emotional, and academic growth in a strong, close, and safe school community.

43 An academic team from the Lighthouse Program placed 1st in the state in the Minnesota Stock Market Game.

45 Over \$60,000 in local scholarships from service organizations, businesses, and individuals to one-third of our high school seniors.

46 Three students participated in the 2010 National Junior High Chess Championship sponsored by the United States Chess Federation.

47 Staff take extreme pride in maintaining clean, safe, and welcoming schools and grounds.

48 Two of our students, a 12-year-old piano-player and a 10-year old tap-dancer, were selected to perform in a commercial for "America's Got Talent." One also captured the pre-teen title at the Minnesota State Fair Talent Show.

49 Successful online learning program offers individualized online curriculum and instruction—leading to a high school degree—via computer from home or anywhere.

50 And, finally, School District 16 is extremely proud of its supportive school community that values education.

Spring Lake Park School District 16 encompasses all of the City of Spring Lake Park, half of the City of Blaine, and a portion of the City of Fridley.



The area is both vibrant and secluded, yet close to the core of the metropolitan area, District 16 is proud of its school-community partnerships in an involved and supportive community of 25,000.

New housing developments, including The Lakes, Deacon's Walk/Tournament Players Club, The Sanctuary, and Pleasure Creek have brought new vitality to previously undeveloped areas. The Northstar commuter rail project is a great new addition to the area.

Our school district community is home to the National Sports Center Olympic Training Facilities, USA Cup—the largest youth soccer tournament in the world, 3M PGA Seniors Championship, and TPC Twin Cities championship golf course.

You'll also find the Minnesota Medical Enterprise Park, Medtronic, Unity Hospital, Anoka County Human Services Center, Anoka Ramsey Community College, and Northtown Regional Shopping Center in the District 16 school community.

In addition, the area is home to Majestic Oaks, Bunker Hills, and Chomonix Golf Courses; Banfill-Locke Center for the Arts; Bunker Hills Regional Park and Bunker Beach Water Park; Sandhill Crane Nature Area; Wargo Nature Center; and Springbrook Nature Center.

Spring Lake Park School District
1415 81 st Avenue NE
Spring Lake Park, MN 55432

763-786-5570
SpringLakeParkSchools.org